

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 139340
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DRAFTED BY EUR/WE:BMCKINLEY:SRS

APPROVED BY EUR:GVEST

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EB/OA:WRILEY

DOL:EGREEN (INFO)

S/S:JTHYDEN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 139340

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: IT, OVIP

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S CONVERSATION WITH PRIME MINISTER,
MAY 31, 9:00 A.M., THE WHITE HOUSE

1. A FULL MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION WILL BE PREPARED
AND SENT SOON. IN THE INTERIM, HERE ARE THE HIGHLIGHTS
OF THE MEETING:

-- MORO ASSASSINATION. THE PRESIDENT REITERATED OUR CON-
DOLENCES AND EXPRESSED HIS ADMIRATION FOR THE COURAGE AND
RESILIENCE OF THE ITALIAN PEOPLE.

-- MAY 14 ELECTIONS. CONGRATULATED BY THE PRESIDENT ON
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THE GOOD SHOWING, ANDREOTTI REPLIED THAT HIS PARTY AND
GOVERNMENT HAD GAINED CONFIDENCE FROM THE RESULTS.

-- VISIT TO ROME. THE PRESIDENT SAID IT WAS NOT YET CER-
TAIN WHETHER HE WOULD BE ABLE TO VISIT ROME IN JULY, BUT
WOULD TRY TO WORK IT OUT AND REACH A DECISION IN TWO O
THREE WEEKS.

-- STRATEGY OF COOPERATION. THE PRESIDENT BRIEFLY REVIEWED PROGRESS TO DATE AND HANDED OVER A PAPER DESCRIBING USICA EFFORTS. BOTH AGREED FURTHER EFFORTS WERE DESIRABLE.

-- UNEMPLOYMENT. ANDREOTTI THANKED THE PRESIDENT FOR THE HEW/LABOR BRIEFING HE HAD RECEIVED ON MAY 29. DESCRIBING THE YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM AS "MORE DISTURBING THAN TERRORISM" BECAUSE MORE INTRACTABLE, HE SAID ANY ASSISTANCE WE MIGHT GIVE WOULD BE VERY WELCOME. THE PRESIDENT OFFERED TO SEND A USG EXPERT ON UNEMPLOYMENT TO ITALY.

-- ENERGY. ANDREOTTI LEFT AN AIDE-MEMOIRE CALLING FOR COOPERATION IN REPROCESSING, NATURAL URANIUM SUPPLY, AND NON-NUCLEAR ALTERNATIVE SOURCES.

-- CIVIL AVIATION. ANDREOTTI LEFT AN AIDE-MEMOIRE DESCRIBING KNOWN ITALIAN POSITIONS ON CONTROL OF CAPACITY, SCHEDULING, AIR FARES, AND DESIGNATION OF A SINGLE CARRIER.

2. COPIES OF THE TWO AIDES-MEMOIRE AND THE USICA PAPER WILL BE POUCHED TO EMBASSY. THE DEPARTMENT IS IN TOUCH WITH LABOR CONCERNING AN UNEMPLOYMENT EXPERT AND WILL COMMUNICATE FURTHER SOON. LABOR DEPARTMENT AT PRESIDENT'S REQUEST, HAS ALREADY CONTACTED ANDREOTTI PARTY. VANCE
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